(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date 21 July 2005 (21.07.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2005/067153 A1

(51) International Patent Classification7: 7/40, G06F 17/30

H03M 7/30,

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/IB2004/052842

(22) International Filing Date:

17 December 2004 (17.12.2004)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: 200310124520.5

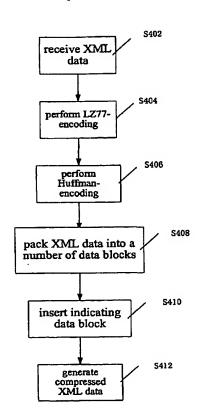
30 December 2003 (30.12.2003) CN

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- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

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(54) Title: RAPIDLY QUERYABLE DATA COMPRESSION FORMAT FOR XML FILES



(57) Abstract: A method and device for XML compression with easy querying are provided. An XML file is parsed with a SAX-parser, useless characters such as tabulators and white spaces are removed, indicating data marks are inserted, LZ-77 compression is applied, and finally the data are Huffman-encoded and packed in data blocks. The indicating marks are used to search in the compressed file for tags or literals in the document, based e.g. on alphabetical order. The indicating marks consist of a special character such as a tab and an XML comment; hence they are XML-compatible. The organization of the compressed file in independent data blocks facilitates rapid querying and partial decompression of the compressed file.